

Activity

Read the following short case study and then consider the questions below, based on what you've read in the feature.

John needs his support worker to remind him that it is time to go to the bathroom and brush his teeth each morning. Staff go with him as he sometimes gets distracted and requires prompting to brush all his teeth during the process. John can identify his toothbrush, put the toothpaste on the brush and begin to brush his teeth without prompting.

But then a change occurs. When John goes to brush his teeth, he can't locate his toothpaste on the shelf, and becomes impatient and irritable.

- What are some things that the staff team could do now to assist John with this problem?
- Could this change be a sign that John is developing dementia?
- What action should staff take if they are concerned that John may be developing dementia?